

RULE NO.: R161-12.29

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE

POSTING DATE: October 3, 2012

The Director of the Austin Water Utility proposes to adopt the following rule after November 4, 2012.

Comments on the proposed rule are requested from the public. Comments should be submitted to Mr. Britt Jones; Austin Water Utility, 625 E. 10th Street, 3rd Floor Suite 300, Austin, Texas 78701, 512-972-0235, or via email at britt.jones@austintexas.gov. To be considered, comments must be submitted before November 4, 2012, the 32nd day after the date this notice is posted. A summary of the written comments received will be included in the notice of rule adoption that must be posted for the rule to become effective.

An affordability impact statement regarding the proposed rule has been obtained and is available for inspection or copying at the address noted in the preceding paragraph.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROPOSED RULE

A rule proposed in this notice may not become effective before the effective date established by a separate notice of rule adoption. A notice of rule adoption may not be posted before November 4, 2012 (the 32nd day after the date of this notice) or not after January 2, 2013 (the 90th day after the date of this notice).

If a proposed rule is not adopted on or before January 2, 2013, it is automatically withdrawn and cannot be adopted without first posting a new notice of a proposed rule.

TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE

A copy of the complete text of the proposed rule is available for public inspection and copying at the following locations. Copies may be purchased at the following locations at a cost of ten cents per page:

Austin Water Utility, located at 625 E. 10th Street, 3rd Floor Suite 300, Austin, Texas. See Mr. Britt Jones and:

Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, located at 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas.

BRIEF EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED RULE

R161-12.29: Proposed revision to the Utility Criteria Manual Section 2.9.2 Water Systems

- Section 2.9.2.A.1.e – removed. This was removed since we have lines with over 110 psi.
- Section 2.9.2.A.3.d – added. This is required by IBC 2009, stating that two independent feeds to the fire pumps need to be supplied to a high rise building.
- Section 2.9.2.B.1 – removed. This was removed because there are several reasons we need it to be looped and we did not want to list them all.
- Section 2.9.2.B.1 – added. The AWWA Research Foundation did an AWWARF study some years ago that confirmed and quantified the dangers of dead end piping. After all was said and done they determined that dead end lines containing less than 100 gallons of water that are connected to a flowing main would receive a sufficient washing of sorts from the changing of pressures and aspiration principals etc., that would mitigate the danger to something acceptable. However, they determined there should never be dead ends containing more than 100 gallons because the back end could not be reached with the required maintenance levels of chlorine and would breed (whatever).
- Section 2.9.2.B.2 – added. This was added to make sure we have enough space between utilities to ensure the trenches do not collapse.
- Section 2.9.2.B.7 – added. This was added to enable maintenance to use robotics for condition assessment and perform leak detection with the current technologies available.
- Section 2.9.2.B.9 – added. This was added to make sure we can access the pipes if they break and not be in the intersection.
- Section 2.9.2.B.11 – added. This was added to describe when to use tapping sleeves.
- Section 2.9.2.C.5 – removed and added. This was changed to make sure all water valves are out of the intersection for maintenance purposes.
- Section 2.9.2.C.7 – removed. These valves are no longer allowed for proposed valves.
- Section 2.9.2.C.9 – removed and added. This was changed to include vertical gate valves and define what part of the horizontal gate valves should be in the vault.
- Section 2.9.2.C.12 – added. This allows horizontal valves when needed.
- Section 2.9.2.D.2 and 3 – removed and added. This was changed to make sure it was completely understood.
- Section 2.9.2.D.6 – added. This was added from the removal of 2.9.2.A.1.e to determine when PRV are required on fire hydrants.
- Section 2.9.2.D.7 – added. This was added to define when to replace old fire hydrants.

- Section 2.9.2.E.2 – removed and added. The last sentence was removed because exceptions to any part of the UCM must be approved by PE so there is no need to specifically state it for this one.
- Section 2.9.2.E.3 – added. This was added to define the acceptable locations.
- Section 2.9.2.E.4 – added. This was added to make sure the taps are at achievable separation distances.
- Section 2.9.2.E.5 – added. This was added to discuss service taps in vaults.
- Section 2.9.2.F – removed and added. These changes were made to clear up water meters for multi-family and commercial customers from Water Conservation.
- Section 2.9.2.F.4 – added. This was added to request bypasses on all meters 3” and larger.
- Section 2.9.2.G.2 – added. This was added to clear up the review and approval of easement documents.
- Section 2.9.2.H – added. This was added to discuss the requirements for existing and proposed water infrastructure in Roundabouts or Traffic Circles.

AUTHORITY FOR ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RULE

The authority and procedure for adoption of a rule to assist in the implementation, administration, or enforcement of a provision of the City Code is provided in Chapter 1-2 of the City Code. The authority to regulate the installation of water and wastewater facilities is established in the Texas Local Government Code Section 552.001 and Title 15 of the City Code.

CERTIFICATION BY CITY ATTORNEY

By signing this Notice of Proposed Rule R161-12.29, the City Attorney certifies the City Attorney has reviewed the rule and finds that adoption of the rule is a valid exercise of the Director's administrative authority.

REVIEW AND APPROVED

Greg Meszaros, Director
Austin Water Utility

Date: _____

Karen M. Kennard
City Attorney

Date: _____